



PATENT
Customer No. 22,852
Attorney Docket No. 7040.0086.00

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
)
Renato CARETTA)
)
Application Serial No. 09/842,662) Group Art Unit: 1733
)
Filed: April 27, 2001) Examiner: Knable, G.
)
For: TYRE FOR A VEHICLE WHEEL)
AND METHOD OF)
MANUFACTURING THE TYRE)

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MAR 08 2004

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

REVISED RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Applicant submits this Revised Response to Restriction Requirement, accompanied by a Petition for Extension of Time, in reply to the Office Action mailed December 31, 2003, the period for response to which runs through March 1, 2004 (February 29, 2004, is a Sunday).

Response to Restriction Requirement

As indicated in the Response to Restriction requirement filed October 14, 2003, prior to entry of the Supplemental Preliminary Amendment also filed October 14, 2003, the pending claims in the present application included claims 1-58. Additionally, because claims 30-58 include claims directed to a carcass structure and a method for manufacturing the carcass structure (similar to claims 1-29), the restriction requirement could be read as requiring restriction to Group I, claims 1-16 and 30-45, and Group II, claims 17-29 and 46-58. This Revised Response to Restriction Requirement proceeds on that basis.

Restriction Requirement

In the Office Action, the Examiner required restriction under 35 U.S.C. § 121 between: Group I, claims 1-16 and 30-45, characterized by the Examiner as drawn to a carcass structure; and Group II, claims 17-29 and 46-58, characterized by the Examiner as drawn to a method to manufacture a carcass structure. The Supplemental Preliminary Amendment cancels, without prejudice or disclaimer, claims 1-58, and adds new claims 59-116. New claims 59-74 and 88-103 correspond to Group I (reciting a tyre for a vehicle wheel), and new claims 75-87 and 104-116 correspond to Group II (reciting a method of manufacturing a tyre for a vehicle wheel). Applicant provisionally elects, with traverse, to prosecute Group I, new claims 59-74 and 88-103.

Regarding traverse of the restriction requirement, Applicant submits that the search and examination of this entire application can be made without serious burden. As such, MPEP § 803, ¶ 2, requires that the Examiner examine this entire application on the merits.

Election of Species Requirement

In the Office Action, the Examiner also required an election of species under 35 U.S.C. § 121 between: proposed Species A, characterized by the Examiner as drawn to the embodiment illustrated in Figs. 11-14; proposed Species B, characterized by the Examiner as drawn to the embodiment illustrated in Fig. 15; and proposed Species C, characterized by the Examiner as drawn to the embodiment illustrated in Fig. 16. Applicant provisionally elects, with traverse, to prosecute proposed species A.

At least the following Group I claims are generic to proposed species A: claims 59 and 88. At least the following Group I claims read on proposed species A: claims 59-67, 72-74, 88-

96, and 101-103. At least the following Group II claims are generic to proposed species A:
claims 75 and 104. At least the following Group II claims read on proposed species A:
claims 75-87 and 104-116.

Regarding traverse of the election of species requirement, Applicant submits that at least independent claims 59, 75, 88, and 104 are generic to all of the proposed species as characterized by the Examiner. Thus, if these or other generic claims are found to be allowable, Applicant submits that Applicant is entitled to consideration of all claims dependent from the allowed generic claims and all claims that include all the limitations of any of the allowed generic claims.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.



Dated: March 1, 2004

By: _____
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